WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An emulator comprising:

a receiving means for receiving circuit data used for implementing debugging functions;

a storage means for storing the circuit data received by said receiving means therein; and

an emulation means for performing emulation according to the circuit data stored in said storage means.

2. The emulator according to Claim 1, wherein said receiving means receives a piece of firmware that controls operations of said emulation means.

3. The emulator according to Claim 1, further comprising a means for changing a use of a hardware resource by updating the circuit data stored in said storage means.

4. The emulator according to Claim 2, further comprising a means for changing a use of a hardware resource by updating the circuit data stored in said storage means.

5. The emulator according to Claim 1, wherein said receiving means receives the circuit data from a personal computer.

6. The emulator according to Claim 2, wherein said receiving means receives the circuit data from a personal

computer.

7. The emulator according to Claim 3, wherein said receiving means receives the circuit data from a personal computer.

8. The emulator according to Claim 1, wherein said receiving means downloads the circuit data from a homepage.

9. The emulator according to Claim 2, wherein said receiving means downloads the circuit data from a homepage.

10. The emulator according to Claim 3, wherein said receiving means downloads the circuit data from a homepage.

11. An emulation method comprising the steps of:

receiving circuit data used for implementing debugging functions;

storing the circuit data in a memory; and

performing emulation according to the circuit data.

12. The emulation method according to Claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving a piece of firmware that controls the emulation.

13. The emulation method according to Claim 11, further comprising the step of changing a use of a hardware resource by updating the circuit data.

14. The emulation method according to Claim 12,

further comprising the step of changing a use of a hardware resource by updating the circuit data.

15. The emulation method according to Claim 11, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of receiving the circuit data from a personal computer.

16. The emulation method according to Claim 12, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of receiving the circuit data from a personal computer.

17. The emulation method according to Claim 13, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of receiving the circuit data from a personal computer.

18. The emulation method according to Claim 11, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of downloading the circuit data from a homepage.

19. The emulation method according to Claim 12, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of downloading the circuit data from a homepage.

20. The emulation method according to Claim 13, wherein said circuit data receiving step is the step of downloading the circuit data from a homepage.